

Building Pathways to a Brighter Future

Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit

Work Attributes Toward Careers in Health (WATCH)

Location: Milton, PA

OTHER GRANT INFORMATION

Five Year Project Period: September 30, 2015 - September 29, 2020

Annual Award Amount: \$1,500,000

Type of Organization: Educational Service Agency

Service Area: Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union Counties in Pennsylvania

Target Population: TANF recipients and other low-income individuals, including SNAP recipients, pregnant or parenting teens, high school dropouts, veterans, displaced workers, migrant workers, individuals transitioning out of foster care or an abusive relationship, or individuals presenting with intergenerational dependency on assistance.

FIVE-YEAR QUANTIFIABLE PROJECTIONS

Number of individuals that will be enrolled in the overall HPOG program: 557

Number of TANF recipients that will be enrolled: 72

Number of individual participants that will begin basic skills education: 185

Number of individual participants that will complete basic skills education: 157

Number of participants that will begin any healthcare occupational training: 648

Number of participants that will complete any healthcare occupational training: 518

Number of individual participants that will obtain employment in a healthcare occupation: 418

ABSTRACT

The Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU), along with its partners, will continue the Work Attributes Toward Careers in Health (WATCH) program. Operating in central Pennsylvania, WATCH enables collaboration of regional health care employers, workforce development entities, educators, and social service providers. The enhanced WATCH will serve participants in 11 primarily rural Pennsylvania counties. The program's goal is to create a sustainable regional framework that moves low-income participants into self-sufficient, high-demand, nursing-related careers that meet local healthcare employment needs.

WATCH will use a job-driven approach to ensure employability; enable participants to enter and up-skill their abilities on the WATCH Regional Nursing Career Pathway; implement work-based experiences (e.g., on-the-job training (OJT), work-study, and registered apprenticeships); implement integrated and contextualized trainings; provide intensive case management including work readiness skills, financial literacy and peer support; and ensure cross-systems coordination to move participants toward self-sufficiency. Supportive services will assist participants with financial aid, child care, tutoring, transportation, English Learner services, and emergency services. Training will target the following occupations: Care Valet, Direct Care Worker, Certified Nursing Assistant, Licensed Practical Nurse, and Registered Nurse. WATCH will also promote Registered CNA Apprenticeship modules Advanced CNA and Geriatric Specialty. WATCH has established regional partnerships with employers, social service providers, workforce development organizations, and educators to ensure its success and efforts toward a sustainable regional career pathway. Additionally, WATCH will continue its local evaluation with (PIRE) Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation. PIRE will maintain the high quality process, outcomes and evaluations that complement and extend the federal evaluation efforts for the WATCH program.